

14 August 2020

Scotland Island Energy Reliability Project Construction work - Church Point Reserve Carpark and Richard Road, Scotland Island

As you are aware, Ausgrid's contractor Dunstans Construction Group has been drilling between Church Point and Scotland Island, ahead of the installation of a new electricity cable. This cable will improve the reliability of the power supply to Scotland Island.

Dunstans work involves directional drilling a hole to Scotland Island and installing conduits (plastic pipes) through the borehole. The cable will then be installed through the conduits.

Progress to date

As the borehole was being widened earlier this month, a small crack in the rock allowed some drilling mud to be released from the borehole to the surface, near Carols Wharf on Scotland Island. The drilling mud, which is used to facilitate the drilling process is a biodegradable product.

As soon as the borehole drilling pressure dropped (linked to the mud releasing), Dunstans paused drilling, executed their incident response plan and notified the NSW Environment Protection Agency (EPA). The response plan included installing silt curtains around the impacted area and cleaning up the released mud.

Drilling has restarted and is being closely monitored. Initially, drilling will occur at low tide so the release point is above the low tide mark reducing risk. There does remain a small risk of further drilling mud releasing through this leakage point. Silt curtains and response equipment will remain in place until the works are completed. We will update you further as the drilling progresses. The project is still planned for completion in late October.

Work on Richard Road, Scotland Island

Work on Richard Road is progressing. The area will be fenced and accessed regularly until cables are installed in October, weather and ground conditions permitting. The area will then be reinstated.

During the work, we will aim to maintain pedestrian access to Richard Road and the wharf and adjacent reserve from the road. However, there will be times when access will be restricted during our work hours. We will notify the community in advance of any access changes.

Access to the wharf from the water will be maintained at all times. Ferry, water taxi and boat activities will not be affected.

Work hours

With statewide changes to construction working hours due to Covid-19, our work hours will be amended as follows:

Monday to Friday	6am to 6.30pm – with drilling work between 7am and 6pm,
Saturday	7.30am to 5.30pm – with drilling work between 8am and 5pm,
Sunday	7.30am to 5.30pm – with drilling work between 8am and 5pm

Please note outside the abovementioned drilling hours, you will notice the project team on site, preparing for the work and carrying out maintenance work on the equipment.

Parking and traffic at Church Point Carpark

The temporary parking restrictions in the Church Point Reserve Carpark will remain in place until October. We will contact residents who have kindly swapped their parking permits for Rowland Reserve, to discuss the extension of work.

Keeping you informed

Ausgrid will issue email notification updates. Residents can register for these updates to be emailed to them at majorprojects@ausgrid.com.au.

For enquiries related to construction, please contact Dunstons on 0490 750 197 (24 hours).

For information related to the project visit our website at www.ausgrid.com.au/scotlandisland. Alternatively, you can contact Ausgrid on 1800 604 765 or majorprojects@ausgrid.com.au.

We apologise for any inconvenience this work may cause you and thank you for your continued patience as we work to improve network reliability in the area.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Woodford', is written above a horizontal line.

Adrian Woodford
Project Director